

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 2670

E.O. 11652: GDS

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SUBJ: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS - KOREA

REF: (A) STATE 91110, (B) STATE 67063

1. IN APR 21 MEETING WITH FSFA DIRECTOR FOR FAR EAST
DUSAN GASPARI, POLCOUNS MADE POINTS REFTELS EXPRESSING
PARTICULAR CONCERN OVER GLIGOROV LETTER AND WHAT IT IMPLIED
FOR YUGOSLAV APPROACH TO COLOMBO AND UNGA. GASPARI
RESPONDED WITH REITERATION OF STANDARD GOY POSITION--NOW
THAT VIETNAM OVER KOREA PRESENTS GREATEST THREAT TO PEACE
IN ASIA, MOVEMENT ESSENTIAL OR SITUATION COULD EXPLODE,
PRESENCE OF FOREIGN FORCES SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT BARRIER
TO DIALOGUE AMONG KOREANS AND TO THEIR PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION.

2. GASPARI SAID KOREAN ITEM WOULD BE PART OF GENERAL
INTERNATIONAL REVIEW, BUT HE CLAIMED ITS CONTENT NOT YET
DECIDED. HE ASSERTED YUGOSLAVS HAD TOLD HO DAM DURING
LATTER'S VISIT HERE THAT IT WAS FOR NORTH KOREANS TO
FORMULATE LANGUAGE, THAT HO DAM UNDERSTOOD THERE WERE
MAJOR DIFFERENCES ON THIS ISSUE AMONG NON-ALIGNED
(93 COUNTRIES HAVING RELATIONS WITH SOUTH KOREA, 92
WITH THE NORTH), AND THAT NORTH KOREANS HAD SAID THEIR
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APPROACH WOULD BE DESIGNED TO CREATE MINIMUM OF

DISUNITY AND TO GATHER MAXIMUM OF SUPPORT.

3. GASPARI SAID HO DAM TALKS DEVOTED LARGELY TO COLOMBO BUT NOT JUST TO KOREAN ISSUE THERE AS NORTH KOREANS EVINced DETERMINATION PLAY A LARGER ROLE OF WHOLE RANGE OF ISSUES, TO BECOME MORE FULLY NON-ALIGNED. HE CLAIMED THEY INCREASINGLY INDEPENDENT OF MOSCOW AND PEKING. CHALLENGED TO GIVE CONCRETE EVIDENCE AND REMINDED THAT CUBA PROVES MEMBERSHIP IN NONALIGNED NOT NECESSARILY SYNONYMOUS WITH EITHER INDEPENDENCE FROM SUPERPOWERS OR NON-PRESENCE OF FOREIGN FORCES, GASPARI MENTIONED THAT KOREAN DELEGATION TO SOVIET PARTY CONGRESS NOT AT HIGHEST LEVEL AND THAT ALL AREAS OF YUGOSLAV -KOREAN RELATIONSHIP INCLUDING PARTY-TO-PARTY TIES WERE IMPROVING.

4. TOLD THAT USG WOULD NOT UNDERSTAND YUGOSLAVS FAILURE TO ENCOURAGE NORTH KOREANS TO ENTER INTO DIALOGUE WITH SOUTH AND PRESSED FOR INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT GOY ADVICE TO HO DAM HAD ACTUALLY BEEN IN THIS RESPECT, GASPARI CONTINUED TO REPEAT THAT FOREIGN FORCES MUST FIRST DEPART TO CREATE ATMOSPHERE FOR TALKS. POLCOUNS CONCLUDED MEETING BY EMPHASIZING THAT ONE-SIDED SUPPORT BY YUGOSLAVIA FOR NORTH KOREA WOULD SIMPLY HARDEN POSTITIONS AND HEIGHTEN TENSIONS, THAT THIS WOULD BE AN EXERCISE IN PROPAGANDA RATHER THAN THE DIPLOMACY OF SPECIFIC PROGRESS WHICH THE YUGOSLAVS PROCLAIMED, AND THAT GOY ACTIONS ON THIS ISSUE WOULD BE CAREFULLY WATCHED BY USG.

5. COMMENT: WE ARE NOT SANGUINE. THE YUGOSLAVS WILL ENCOURAGE THE NORTH KOREANS TO DRAFT A "MODERATE" RESOLUTION -- BUT THIS IS CLEARLY A TWO EDGED SWORD FOR US AS IT WILL FACILITATE MAJORITY SUPPORT. BASICALLY THEY ARE ON THE NORTH KOREANS' SIDE -- TO SPREAD "SOCIALISM", TO GAIN ANOTHER COMMUNIST ALLY IN RELATIVE INDEPENDENCE FROM THE SOVIET UNION AND CHINA AND TO WEAKEN THE INFLUENCE OF THE UNITED STATES. WE EXPECT THEM TO WORK CLOSELY IN PREPARATIONS BOTH FOR COLOMBO AND THE UNGA.
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